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Letter dated 17 March 2005 from the Permanent Representatives of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the joint declaration on Ukrainian-Moldovan cooperation, signed on 1 March 2005 in Kyiv by the Presidents of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 56 (n).

(*Signed*) Vsevolod **Grigore**
Permanent Representative
Republic of Moldova

(*Signed*) Valeriy **Kuchinsky**
Permanent Representative
Ukraine

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Annex to the letter dated 17 March 2005 from the Permanent Representatives of the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Joint Declaration on Ukrainian-Moldovan cooperation

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, hereinafter referred to as the parties, hereby declare that the two States have joint strategic goals concerning European integration and that they are ready to cooperate in their realization.

The parties intend to develop their relations with the European Union, as European States which respect European values and standards, and confirm their commitment to the consistent implementation of democratic and market-oriented reforms.

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova declare that they are developing their economic ties on the basis of the steady, gradual harmonization of their legislation with the principles and norms of the European Union and the free movement of people, capital, goods and services.

The Republic of Moldova supports the speedy entry of Ukraine into the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova support the inviolability of each other's borders and each other's territorial integrity. The parties declare their firm intention to ensure cooperation on the Ukrainian-Moldovan border and to create effective conditions for counteracting smuggling and the illicit movement of persons, weapons and narcotic drugs. To this end, the parties intend to submit a joint proposal to the European Union.

The parties declare their commitment to the strengthening of the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. In particular, the parties intend to contribute in all possible ways to ensuring the interests and the national and cultural needs of the Ukrainian community in Moldova and the Moldovan community in Ukraine.

To that end, the parties have reached an agreement on the reciprocal opening of cultural centres.

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova confirm their readiness to convene, as soon as possible, a meeting of the Ukrainian-Moldovan Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation, to take stock of bilateral agreements and evaluate compliance with the obligations that they have undertaken.

The parties have reached agreement to hold consultations as soon as possible to resolve a number of issues concerning their bilateral relations, including those concerning the construction of an oil terminal and port at the locality of Dzhurdzhulesht.

The Moldovan party has undertaken to take the necessary measures to ratify the Temporary Regulations on the Information Office of the Georgia, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldova Group (GUUAM), dated 20 July 2002, and the

Agreement on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area among the Member States of GUUAM, of 20 July 2002, in the first half of 2005.

The Ukrainian party has undertaken to take the necessary measures to ratify the bilateral Agreement on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area in the first half of 2005.

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova support the swift resumption of the negotiation process for a Dniester region settlement and urge all participants in that process to refrain from any unilateral steps which might exacerbate the situation in the region.

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova would welcome the involvement as observers of representatives of the European Union and the United States of America in the process of reaching a Dniester region settlement.

Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova also confirm that they are prepared to hold consultations in the near future in order to resolve a number of practical issues arising in the context of a Dniester region settlement, especially in the area of customs regulation.

(*Signed*) Vladimir **Voronin**
President of the Republic of Moldova

(*Signed*) Viktor **Yushchenko**
President of Ukraine

Kyiv, 1 March 2005